REMARKS

The specification has been amended. Claims 1-15 are pending, with claims 1, 10, and 14-15 being independent.

Attached hereto is an Appendix entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made" which is a marked-up version of the portions of the application which have been amended by the present amendment, with underlining indicating added matter.

A preliminary amendment was filed on October 15, 2001, but the Office Action of January 25, 2002, does <u>not</u> indicate that the preliminary amendment of October 15, 2001, has been entered. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner <u>specifically indicate on the record in the next</u> Office communication that the preliminary amendment of October 15, 2001, has been entered.

The present application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/043,534 filed on March 20, 1998, which is a national stage application under 35 USC 371 of international application No. PCT/JP95/01886 filed on September 20, 1995, as indicated in the new section entitled "CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" which was added on page 1 of the specification in the preliminary amendment of October 15, 2001, as required by 35 USC 120. However, the Examiner did not check the box in item 15 on page 1 (the Office Action Summary) of the Office Action of January 25, 2002, to acknowledge the claim for domestic priority under 35 USC 120. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner

acknowledge the claim for domestic priority under 35 USC 120 in the next Office communication.

At the bottom of page 2 of the Office Action of January 25, 2002, the Examiner states that "Any response to this final action should be mailed to". However, it is submitted that the Office Action of January 25, 2002, is in fact a non-final Office Action as indicated in item 2b on page 1 (the Office Action Summary) of the Office Action of January 25, 2002.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 USC 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973 which issued from parent application Serial No. 09/043,534 of the present application. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In explaining the rejection, the Examiner states as follows:

The term "AND functional circuit" in the independent claims of the present application and the term "AND logical circuit" in the allowed independent claims of the prior U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973 are directed to the same AND gate circuit, therefore, claims 1-15 of the present application are claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-16 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973.

Claims 1-15 of the present application are respectively identical to claims 1-9 and 11-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973, except that the term <u>AND logical circuit</u> in the last paragraph of independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16 has been changed to <u>AND functional circuit</u> in independent application claims 1, 10, and 14-15 which respectively

correspond to independent patent claims 1, 10, and 15-16. It is noted that independent patent claim 10 does not recite an AND logical circuit as do independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16, and accordingly it is submitted that independent patent claim 10 should not have been included in the statement of the rejection.

The Examiner's position that application claims 1-15 claim the same invention as that of patent claims 1-9 and 11-16 appears to be based on the Examiner's position that the AND functional circuit recited in independent application claims 1, 10, and 14-15 and the AND logical circuit recited in independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16 read on AND gate circuit 47 shown, for example, in Fig. 1 and described, for example, on page 8, lines 21-22, of the specification as originally filed.

However, it is submitted that the <u>proper</u> test of whether application claims 1-15 claim the same invention as that of patent claims 1-9 and 11-16 is set forth in MPEP 804, Eighth Edition, August 2001, pp. 800-20 to 800-21, which provides as follows in pertinent part (emphasis added):

A. Statutory Double Patenting — 35 U.S.C. 101

In determining whether a statutory basis for a double patenting rejection exists, the question to be asked is: Is the same invention being claimed twice? 35 U.S.C. 101 prevents two patents from issuing on the same invention. "Same invention" means identical subject matter. Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co., 151 U.S. 186 (1984); In re Vogel, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and In re Ockert, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957).

A reliable test for double patenting under 35 U.S.C. 101 is whether a claim in the application could be literally infringed without literally infringing a corresponding claim in the patent. In re Vogel, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA Is there an embodiment of the 1970). invention that falls within the scope of one claim, but not the other? If there is such an embodiment, then identical subject matter is not defined by both claims and statutory double patenting would not exist. For example, the invention defined by a claim reciting a compound having a "halogen" substituent is not identical to or substantively the same as a claim reciting the same compound except having a "chlorine" substituent in place of the halogen because "halogen" is broader than "chlorine." On the other hand, claims may be differently worded and still define the Thus, a claim reciting a same invention. widget having a length of "36 inches" defines the same invention as a claim reciting the same widget having a length of "3 feet."

Here, it is submitted that the term <u>AND functional</u> <u>circuit</u> recited in independent application claims 1, 10, and 14-15 is <u>broader</u> than the term <u>AND logical circuit</u> recited in independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16, such that there are embodiments of the invention which fall within the scope of application claims 1-15 but do <u>not</u> fall within the scope of patent claims 1-9 and 11-16.

For example, it is submitted that the term <u>AND functional</u> <u>circuit</u> recited in independent application claims 1, 10, and 14-15 means <u>any</u> circuit which performs an AND function, while the term <u>AND logical circuit</u> recited in independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16 means a <u>logical</u> circuit which performs an AND function.

Attached hereto is a copy of H. Taub et al., <u>Digital</u>

<u>Integrated Electronics</u>, 1977, p. 440 (the first page of

Chapter 13, "Analog Switches", as indicated on page xiv of the
table of contents), McGraw-Hill, New York, ISBN 0-07-062921-8,
which states as follows in pertinent part (emphasis added):

Digital waveforms, ideally at least, make abrupt transitions between two separated ranges of values. One range represents logic level 1 while the other range represents logic level 0. Within each range, the exact signal level is of no significance. In logical gates all inputs and outputs are digital signals.

In light of this, it is submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art might arguably interpret the term <u>AND logical</u> circuit recited in independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16 to mean a <u>logical</u> circuit which performs an AND function and is implemented with a <u>digital</u> circuit.

In contrast, it is submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that the term <u>AND functional</u> circuit recited in independent application claims 1, 10, and 14-15 is <u>not</u> limited to an implementation with a <u>digital</u> circuit, but means <u>any</u> circuit which performs an AND function, and may be implemented with <u>either</u> a <u>digital</u> circuit, or with an <u>analog</u> circuit, such as, for example, an operational amplifier.

Accordingly, it is submitted that an embodiment of the present invention including an analog circuit which performs an AND function would fall within the scope of independent application claims 1, 10, and 14-15 and dependent application claims 2-9 and 11-13 depending from independent application

claims 1 and 10, but would arguably <u>not</u> fall within the scope of independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16 and dependent application claims 2-9 and 12-14 depending from independent patent claims 1 and 11 because, as discussed above, one of ordinary skill in the art might arguably interpret the term <u>AND logical circuit</u> recited in independent patent claims 1, 11, and 15-16 to mean a <u>logical</u> circuit which performs an AND function and is implemented with a <u>digital</u> circuit.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 1-15 of the present application do <u>not</u> claim the same invention as that of claims 1-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973 under the test set forth in MPEP 804, such that claims 1-15 of the present application are <u>not</u> subject to a double patenting rejection under 35 USC 101 over claims 1-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973.

Since claims 1-15 of the present application do <u>not</u> claim the same invention as that of claims 1-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973 for the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-16 of U.S. patent No. 6,329,973 be <u>withdrawn</u>.

As recognized by the Examiner, the other references cited but not relied upon neither disclose nor suggest the present invention, and thus no further discussion of these other references is deemed necessary at this time.

It is submitted that the Examiner's only rejection has been overcome, and that the application is now in condition

for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an action of a favorable nature are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.36114CX1).

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Changes made to the application by the present amendment are indicated below, with underlining indicating added matter.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The new section entitled "CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" which was added on page 1 between line 2 ("IMAGE DISPLAY") and line 3 ("BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION") in the preliminary amendment of October 15, 2001, and has been deleted and replaced with the following replacement section:

-- CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/043,534 filed on March 20, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,329,973, which is a national stage application under 35 USC 371 of international application No. PCT/JP95/01886 filed on September 20, 1995.--

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HERBERT TAUB DONALD SCHILLING

Professors of Electrical Engineering The City College of the City University of New York

Digital Integrated Electronics This book was set in Times Roman.
The editors were Peter D. Nalle and Madelaine Eichberg; the cover was designed by Scott Chelius; the production supervisor was Charles Hess.
The drawings were done by J & R Services, Inc. Kingsport Press, Inc., was printer and binder.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Taub, Herbert, date
Digital integrated electronics.

(McGraw-Hill electrical and electronic engineering series) Includes index.

1. Digital electronics. 2. Integrated circuits.

I. Schilling, Donald L., joint author. II. Title. TK7868.D5T37 621.381 76-4585

ISBN 0-07-062921-8

DIGITAL INTEGRATED ELECTRONICS

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Digital waveforms, ideally at least, make abrupt transitions between two separated ranges of values. One range represents logic level 1 while the other range represents logic level 0. Within each range, the exact signal level is of no significance. In logical gates all inputs and outputs are digital signals.

Analog voltages, on the other hand, are voltages whose precise value is always significant. Such analog voltages may be fixed in value or may make excursions through a continuous range of values. There frequently occurs a need for switches in circuits and systems involving analog signals, in which the opening and closing of the switches are to be controlled by digital waveforms. Circuits of this type are variously called analog gates, transmission gates, linear gates, time-selection circuits, etc., depending on the purpose to which the circuit is put. The switch-control digital waveform is referred to as the gating signal, the control signal, or the logic input.